

ALASKA FARM REPORTER

Alaska Division of Agriculture
Alaska Cooperative Extension
Ag & Forestry Experiment Station



U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 799
Palmer, AK 99645

December 26, 2004

MILK PRODUCTION

November milk production in **ALASKA** totaled 1.1 million pounds, which is unchanged from November 2003 and last month. Production per cow averaged 950 pounds, up 10 pounds from October 2004. Milk cows at 1,200 head were unchanged from last year.

Production during the first eleven months of 2004 totaled 13.4 million pounds compared with 15.5 million pounds during the same period in 2003, a decrease of 14% from the same period last year.

Milk production in the **20 MAJOR STATES** during November totaled 11.8 billion pounds, up 1.2 percent from November 2003. October revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was up 1.4 percent from October 2003. The October revision represented an increase of 0.1 percent or 9 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,526 pounds for November, 9 pounds above November 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 44,000 head more than November 2003, but unchanged from October 2004.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

ALASKA GREENHOUSE & NURSERY CONFERENCE

January 26th & 27th, 2005
Best Western Lake Lucille Inn Wasilla, Alaska
For more information contact:
Peter Bierman (907) 745-3360

DELTA FARM FORUM

February 26, 2005
Delta Junction School Delta Junction, Alaska
For more information contact
Phil Kaspari (907) 895-4215

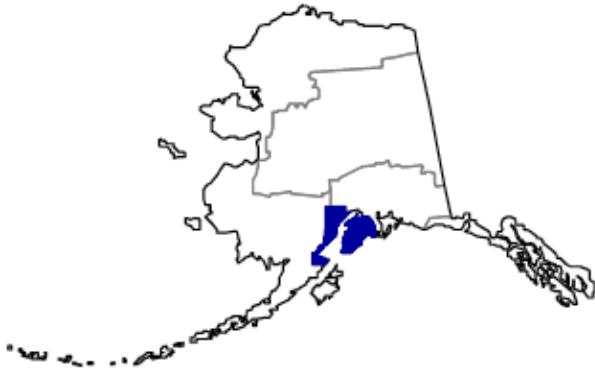
POTATO STOCKS

ALASKA: All potatoes in storage in **ALASKA** as of December 1, 2004 totaled 137,000 cwt. This was 77 percent of the 2004 crop and compares with 110,000 cwt or 66 percent on hand during the same period last year. The 2002 level for the December 1 stocks was 116,000 cwt. The five-year average stocks on hand for December 1 is 135,200 cwt.

Disappearance since October 1 was 17,000 cwt, compared with 37,000 cwt last year and the five-year average of 23,100 cwt. Disappearance of potatoes from the start of the harvest to December 1 totaled 40,000 cwt; comparable disappearance for a year earlier was 58,000 cwt. The five year average is 38,000 cwt. The disappearance since October 1 reflects sales, shrinkage and waste, as well as losses caused by frost damage to potatoes. In 2004 there was a small loss of potatoes due to frost damage. In 2003 there was significant frost damage reflected in the disappearance.

Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including seed potatoes that are not yet moved, and shrinkage, waste, and other losses that occur after the date of each report.

Revisions have been made to the earlier published potato stocks and production estimates. The production for potatoes for 2004 is revised down to 177,000 cwt; Oct 1 stocks were revised down to 154,000 cwt. Revisions were made as more up to date information was available from producers.

2002 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE AREA PROFILE: KENAI PENINSULA

OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS: KENAI PENINSULA	QUANTITY
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	56
Other	42
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	78
Female	20
Average age of principal operator (years)	57.2

2002 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE AREA PROFILE: KENAI PENINSULA

ITEM	2002	1997	PCT CHANGE
Number of farms	98	89	10%
Land in farms (acres)	36,289	56,474	-36%
Average size of farm (acres)	370	635	-42%
Market Value of Production	\$2,056,000	\$1,259,000	63%

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